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## Tapping of Hill Phones Charged By Montoya, Denied by Justice

DENVER, March 20 (AP)—Sen. Joseph M. Montoya (D-N.M.) says the Justice Department has tapped private tele-

phone lines of U.S. senators and congressmen. A department spokesman denied this.

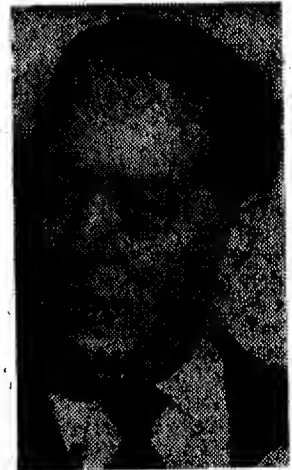
Montoya said in a speech to Colorado's Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner Friday night that the Nixon administration had encouraged and actively participated in "frightening invasions of citizens' rights and privileges."

"Even the United States Senate is not immune to it," he said. "Several (members) have plainly stated they believe their conversations have been monitored."

Montoya said in an interview afterward that he would include the Justice Department among those who have tapped private telephones of senators and House members. He mentioned no names.

In Washington, the Justice Department director of public information, John Hushen, said, "That's absolutely false. I have no knowledge of any such complaints."

In his speech, Montoya also said the Post Office had opened first-class mail without its recipients' knowledge.



**SEN. JOSEPH MONTOYA**  
... accuses administration